

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 00659 200810Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7760

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0659

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RO, XF

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST TRIPS

1. IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S FORTHCOMING TRIP BACK TO MIDDLE EAST AND CEAUSESCU'S CURRENT ACTIVITIES THERE, IT WOULD SEEM POSSIBLY USEFUL TO ASK FOR MEETING WITH SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL HERE FOR BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON ASPECTS OF CEAUSESCU TRIP THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL FOR SECRETARY TO KNOW. IF SO, SOME INFO, HOWEVER BRIEF, ON SECRETARY'S TRIP WOULD BE USEFUL INDUCEMENT.
2. ON OTHER HAND, I REALIZE THAT, EVEN IF CONSIDERED USEFUL, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PURSUE MATTER VIA BOGDAN OR THAT DELICACY OF PROBLEM MAY MAKE IT PREFERABLE NOT TO BROACH SUBJECT WITH ROMANIANS.
3. IN ANY CASE, UNLESS DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION, I WOULD PROPOSE TO ASK SENIOR MFA OFFICIALS ABOUT CEAUSESCU VISIT AS ROUTINE INQUIRY, WHICH MIGHT WELL BE EXPECTED NOW EVEN IN ABSENCE OF ANY SPECIAL REQUEST FROM WASHINGTON.
4. SOME APPROACH TO GOR WOULD ALSO BE CONSISTENT WITH ROMANIAN DESIRE FOR MORE DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND GOR ESPOUSAL OF ROLE THAT MIDDLE-SIZE STATES CAN PLAY.

5. PLEASE INSTRUCT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUCHAR00659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P740145-2107
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740219/aaaaascw.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIDDLE EAST TRIPS
TAGS: PFOR, RO, XF, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005